

2018 Official Holidays

New Year's Day	Jan 01	Monday	V/A
Martin Luther King's Birthday	Jan 15	Monday	A
Lunar New Year Festival/ Presidents' Day	Feb 14 - 20	Wed - Tue	V/A
National Anniversary of Hung Kings	Apr 25	Wednesday	V
Victory Day	Apr 30	Monday	V
International Labor Day	May 01	Tuesday	V
Memorial Day	May 28	Monday	A
Independence Day	Jul 04	Wednesday	A
Vietnamese National Day/ Labor Day	Sep 03	Monday	V/A
Columbus Day	Oct 08	Monday	A
Veterans Day (observed)	Nov 12	Monday	A
Thanksgiving Day	Nov 22	Thursday	A
Christmas Day	Dec 25	Tuesday	A

2019 Official Holidays

New Year's Day	Jan 01	Tuesday	V/A
Martin Luther King's Birthday	Jan 21	Monday	A
Lunar New Year Festival	Feb 4 - 8	Mon - Fri	V
Presidents' Day	Feb 18	Monday	A
National Anniversary of Hung Kings (observed)	Apr 15	Monday	V
Victory Day	Apr 30	Tuesday	V
International Labor Day	May 01	Wednesday	V
Memorial Day	May 27	Monday	A
Independence Day	Jul 04	Thursday	A
Vietnamese National Day/Labor Day	Sep 02	Monday	V/A
Columbus Day	Oct 14	Monday	A
Veterans Day	Nov 11	Monday	A
Thanksgiving Day	Nov 28	Thursday	A
Christmas Day	Dec 25	Wednesday	A

A= American Holidays

V= Vietnamese Holidays

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Welcome to Hanoi



Photograph by Lê Đức Thọ (PAS)

**Community Liaison Office
U.S. Embassy Hanoi
7 Lang Ha, Ba Dinh**

WELCOME TO HANOI

Hanoi, with an estimated population of 7.559 million (as on Dec 31st 2015), is the capital of Vietnam. The city is located on the right bank of the Red River. Hanoi is 1,760 km (1,094 miles) north of HCMC. On May 29, 2008, it was decided that Ha Tay province, Vinh Phuc's Me Linh district and 3 communes of Luong Son district, Hoa Binh be merged into the metropolitan area of Hanoi. Hanoi's total area tripled to 334,470 hectares divided into 30 subdivisions. October 2010 officially marked the 1000 year anniversary of the establishment of the city.

POPULATION

Hanoi's population is constantly growing, a reflection of the fact that the city is both a major metropolitan area of Northern Vietnam, and also the country's political center. This population growth also puts a lot of pressure on the city's infrastructure, some of which is antiquated and dates back to the early 20th century.

When you talk to Hanoians, they will concede that most people you meet in Hanoi these days are from somewhere else. If you define a native Hanoian as someone who has been here for three generations or more, that number is likely to be very small as compared to the overall population of the city. Even in the Old Quarter, where commerce started hundreds of years ago and was mostly a family business, many of the street-front stores nowadays are owned by merchants and retailers from other provinces. The original owner family may have either rented out the store and moved to live further inside the house, or just moved out of the neighborhood altogether.

The considerate and genteel nature of Hanoians is occasionally quoted in idioms and literature, which may appear as annoyingly snobbish. In reality, they are a reflection of a past where Hanoi was the convergent point for much of the country's talents in

arts and education. They are also a reflection of a system heavily entrenched in Confucian values where modesty and consideration of others are regarded with a higher priority than one's self. As the opening up of the economy has brought in other pressures on people's daily life, advocates for traditional social and family values are in many ways helping to counter an "everyone for himself" mentality.

ECONOMY

Similar to Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi enjoys a rapidly-developing real estate market. The economic growth does not seem to correlate to its infrastructure. The increasing population requires a much larger supply of accommodations, while the constructing of both a new transport system and new urban areas are too low. Not surprisingly, as an effect of this problem, an apartment and real estate boom occurred during the time. The real estate boom even influenced Ha Tay, the neighboring province, considered the future development area of the capital. New luxurious residential neighborhoods are popping up on the outskirts of Hanoi regularly.

Agriculture, previously a pillar in Hanoi's economy, has striven to reform itself, introducing new high-yield plant varieties and livestock, and applying



US EMBASSY HANOI REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICE SECURITY REMINDERS

We hope that you will enjoy your stay in Hanoi. Like any large city, however, Hanoi does have some problems with crime. Listed below are some security tips which, if followed, should help make your visit a pleasant and safe one.

1. Do not leave valuables unattended in your hotel room; use the hotel safe or bring items to the Embassy. Keep your hotel room door locked at all times.
2. When shopping, avoid wearing expensive jewelry or watches. Do not "flash" a lot of money when making purchases.
3. Always be on the lookout for pickpockets. A small group can easily distract you and make you a target.
4. When traveling, keep vehicle's doors locked and windows rolled up. Keep valuables, such as cameras, out of sight.
5. Do not take pictures of any military locations or of anyone in uniform. Some Vietnamese people may object to having their picture taken. Ask permission of the subject.
6. When on the roads outside of Hanoi, ALWAYS wear your seat belt and avoid traveling on highways after dark.
8. Avoid walking in secluded areas.
9. Always use taxis, rather than cyclos (pedicabs) or xe oms (motorcycle taxis). Taxis are metered in Hanoi and are generally reliable. If you enter a taxi and think the driver is impaired due to alcohol or drugs, get out and find another taxi.



Caryn R. McClelland
Deputy Chief of Mission in Vietnam
U.S. Embassy Hanoi

Caryn R. McClelland began her assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) in Vietnam in September of 2017. Prior to this assignment Ms. McClelland served as the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in Washington, DC; the Deputy Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs; as the Deputy Chief of Mission in Riga, Latvia; and as the Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General in Surabaya, Indonesia, covering the Eastern half of the Indonesian archipelago from East Java to the Maluku, including the U.S. Consular Agency in Bali. She previously served as the Political-Economic Counselor in Baku, Azerbaijan; the Deputy Economic Counselor in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; the sole Political-Economic Officer in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan; and as a Consular Officer in Dublin, Ireland. Ms. McClelland also served as a Senior Advisor to the Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Caspian Basin Energy Diplomacy and as the Eurasia Regional Energy Officer in Washington.

She received master's degrees from the National War College at the National Defense University and San Francisco State University and a bachelor's degree from UCLA. Ms. McClelland speaks Latvian, Indonesian, and Russian.

modern farming techniques.

Together with economic growth, Hanoi's appearance has also changed significantly, especially in recent years. Infrastructure is constantly being upgraded, with new roads and an improved public transportation system.

EDUCATION

Hanoi, as the capital of French Indochina, was home to the first western-style universities in Indochina, including: *Indochina Medical College* (1902) - now Hanoi Medical University, *Indochina University* (1904) - now Hanoi National University, and *École Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de L'Indochine* (1925) - now Hanoi University of Fine Art.

After the communists took control of Hanoi in 1954, with support from Soviet Union, some new universities were built. Among them, Hanoi University of Technology, is still the largest technical university in Vietnam.

Hanoi is the largest center of education in Vietnam. It is estimated that 62 % of the whole country's science cadres are living and working in Hanoi.

Admissions to undergraduate study are through entrance examinations, which are conducted annually and open to everyone in the country. The majority of universities in Hanoi are public, although in recent years a few private universities have opened.

TRANSPORTATION

Hanoi is served by Noi Bai International Airport, located in the Soc Son District, approximately 40 km (25 miles) north of Hanoi. Noi Bai is the only international

airport serving the northern regions of Vietnam. Direct daily flights are available to other cities in Vietnam, and to Asia, Australia, and Europe. Flights to and from the Americas usually involve a transit.

There are two main highways linking the airport and city. The route to the city via Thang Long Bridge is more direct than Highway 1, which runs along the outskirts of the city. The main highways are shared by cars and motor scooters, with separate lanes on the side for bicycles. Taxis are plentiful and usually have meters. Tourists also sometimes tour the city on Cyclos, especially in the Old Quarter.

Hanoi is also the origin departure point for many train routes in the country. The Union Express (tàu Thống Nhất) runs from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City from Hanoi station (formerly Hang Co station), with stops at cities and provinces along the line. Trains also depart Hanoi frequently for Hải Phòng and other northern cities.

The main means of transport within the city are motorbikes, buses, taxis, and bicycles. Motorbikes remain the most common way to move around the city, due to their flexibility in navigating small streets and the lack of parking spaces for cars. The number of private cars are however rising every year, and traffic at peak hours can be very heavy.

Public buses run on many routes and fare can be purchased on the bus. For short trips, "xe ôm" (motorcycle taxis) are available where the passenger sits on the rear of a motorbike and the driver takes the passenger to their destination.

UPON YOUR ARRIVAL

AIRPORT

1. Arrival/Departure

You will arrive at the Noi Bai International Airport located about 22 miles north of Hanoi. Customs forms are not required when you arrive or depart the country.



2. Airport Transportation

It is a 45 to 60 minute ride to the center of Hanoi. In addition to taxi services (see page 15 for taxi contact numbers), high quality Express Bus No. 86 is now available (see more information about timetable and stops at <https://vietnamrailway.com.vn/high-quality-express-bus-86-noi-bai-airport-and-hanoi-city-hanoi-train-station/>).

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

In Hanoi, February is the middle of the winter season with average daily temperatures ranging between 55-68°F with about 40% humidity. While day-time temperatures in Hanoi can be mild at this time of year, you may want to pack sweaters and/or jackets for the early mornings and evenings.

June, July and August are the hottest months with daytime temperature between 92-97°F and high humidity. Comfortable, lightweight clothing in natural fabrics such as cotton is most suitable for most of the hot season. The dress code is fairly casual, but it is advisable to cover arms and legs in the evenings to protect against biting insects.



ELECTRICITY

The voltage in Hanoi is 220 volts, 50 Hz, but it is unstable. Wall outlets take the

continental European two round plugs. Please remember to bring adaptors.

ETIQUETTE

Observing the following local customs will help keep you from embarrassing yourself with the Vietnamese.

- Crossing your index and middle finger (our way of wishing good luck) is considered to be a lewd gesture.
- Touching someone, especially on the head, is not welcomed.
- Motioning for someone to come with your palm up is considered rude.
- Handing a pair of chopsticks is considered bad luck.

Name cards are essential regardless of your line of work. When giving business cards out, use both hands – it is more respectful. Accept incoming name cards with both hands as well.

GETTING AROUND

1. Taxis

Taxis are readily available and inexpensive. You can get to most places within the downtown area for about \$2.50 to \$5.00. Ask a hotel doorman to give the driver the name/location of your destination, or simply hand the driver a business card.

To help keep you safe, follow these security tips:

- Try to use the buddy system when taking a late night or early morning taxi.
- Taxi Group, ABC or Mai Linh Taxi with meters are the recommended



Dan Kritenbrink
U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam
U.S. Embassy Hanoi

Daniel J. Kritenbrink is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, who has served as an American diplomat since 1994. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the next U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam on October 26, 2017.

Mr. Kritenbrink has completed multiple assignments related to Asia. Most recently, he was the Senior Advisor for North Korea Policy at the Department of State. Prior to that, he was Senior Director for Asian Affairs at the National Security Council (2015-2017), where he worked extensively on Vietnam and oversaw the negotiation of two Joint Statements regarding our Comprehensive Partnership with Vietnam. At the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, Mr. Kritenbrink served as Deputy Chief of Mission (2013-2015), Minister Counselor for Political Affairs (2011-2013), and as Political Officer (2006-2009). He also served in Tokyo (1994-1995 and 2000-2004), Sapporo (1995-1997), and Kuwait City (1997-1999). In Washington, his other assignments have included Director of the Office of Chinese and Mongolian Affairs at the Department of State (2009-2011), and Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs (1999-2000).

Mr. Kritenbrink earned an M.A. from the University of Virginia and a B.A. from the University of Nebraska-Kearney. He speaks Chinese and Japanese. He and his wife Nami have two children

COFFEE SHOPS / TEA HOUSE		
*The Lissom Parlour	68A Nguyễn Hữu Huân, Hoàn Kiếm	3876-0888
Truong Xuan Tea House	13 Ngô Tất Tố, Dong Da Dist	3911-0104
*Xofa	14 Tống Duy Tân, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	3717-1555
ICE CREAM		
*Baskin Robbins	60 Lý Thường Kiệt, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 25 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 30 Hàng Vôi, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	Delivery: 1900-2076
Dairy Queen	2 Flr, AEON Mall, 27 Cổ Linh, Long Bien Dist	6666-7788
	B1 Vincom Times City, 458 Minh Khai, Hai Ba Trung Dist	7300-6626
	5 Flr, Vincom 191 Bà Triệu, Hai Ba Trung Dist	7304-3389
Fanny's Ice Cream	2 Hàng Bài, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3937 -8170
Gelato Italia	31 Tô Ngọc Vân, Tay Ho Dist 38 Lê Thái Tổ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	3718-0014 3563-3939
Goofoo Gelato	40 Nhà Chung, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	098-166-0616
Ooh! La La	7 Hàng Bạc, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	0121-307-9002
*Tràng Tiền	35 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 31 Âu Cơ, Tay Ho Dist. 78 Láng Hạ, Dong Da Dist.	3824-0294 098-626-7979
*Swensen's	42 Hàng Bè, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3266-9979
OTHERS		
Hanoi Cooking Center/ Café	44 Châu Long, Ba Dinh Dist.	3715-0088/3715-3277
Hidden Hanoi Cooking School/ Walking Tours	147 Nghi Tàm St., Tay Ho Dist.	091-225-4045 6328-2553
NOTES		

Information about shops and restaurants is subject to change. Many businesses suddenly shut down or move to a new location with little notice. Please be sure to verify the location of the business by calling first.

taxi companies. Avoid using taxis that have completely blacked out windows, magnetic signage, no meter, and are otherwise suspicious.

- Take special care and remain aware of your surrounding at all times when using taxis.
- Note the name of the taxi company and number of the taxi license number. (You can use your camera phone to snap a shot of the license plate number and/or taxi number).
- Inform a friend or family member via phone call or text message of your taxi and trip information to insure someone knows about your trip details.
- In an emergency call the local police emergency number at 113.

According to the Hanoi Transportation and Public Works Department, there are now more than 5,000 taxis in Hanoi and more than 1,000 of them are fake taxis. Please be attentive and avoid becoming a victim.

2. Grab

Grab taxi service is available in the city and the ride fares are typically cheaper than a regular taxi. You will need to download the app online and have phone service for this option.



3. Xe Om (motorbike taxi)

Xe Oms are widely available in Hanoi. It's an easier way to get from point A to point B at a much cheaper cost.

Depending on the distance, the fee starts at 5,000 VND and up for each trip. The key is to make sure to have the Xe Om to agree on the rate before the trip. Now, some Xe Om are even

equipped with meters. Xe Oms normally provide a helmet, but it is recommended to have your own.

HEALTH CONCERNS

If you do not have health unit access or you are not covered for medical evacuation under ICASS, it is essential to take out a supplemental medical insurance policy to include evacuation before traveling. Medical facilities are rather limited in Hanoi. Short-term visitors should update the following vaccinations: typhoid, hepatitis A & B, boosters for tetanus-diphtheria, measles, rabies, influenza and Japanese encephalitis. It is the responsibility of travelers and their sponsoring agencies to comply with medical requirements prior to arriving to Hanoi.

Travelers should visit the CDC website: www.cdc.gov for more comprehensive and up-to-date information.

1. Medical Treatment

Raffles Medical Hanoi, Hanoi Family Medical Practice and the French Hospital are good facilities recommended by the US Embassy.

- Raffles Medical Hanoi
51 Xuan Dieu Street
Tel: 3934-0666
- French Hospital
No. 1 Phuong Mai Street
Tel: 3574-1111
- Hanoi Family Medical Clinic
298-I Kim Ma Road
Tel: 3843-0748
- Peace Dental Clinic
Dr. Frederick Abel
51A Nguyen Khac Hieu
Tel: 090-448-3511

2. Medical Insurance

Non-U.S. Government employees are

advised to have supplemental international medical insurance policy with a medical evacuation clause. The cost of medical treatment and/or evacuation from Hanoi is extremely high and doctors and hospitals expect immediate cash payment for health services.

There are many travel insurance companies available and they can be easily located using the Internet.

3. Prescription Medicines

It is highly recommended to bring sufficient amounts of prescription medications with you during your stay! Many medications are not available locally and there are many counterfeit drugs.

4. Water

Do **not** drink tap water or use ice in Vietnam, even if it is “filtered.” Bottled water is widely available.

5. Wash hands

Wash your hands frequently. You may also want to bring along hand sanitizer.

LANGUAGE

Vietnamese is written in a Roman-based script called *quoc ngu*. Since the Vietnamese language has six different tones, it is difficult for foreigners to speak. It is best to use business cards, a phrase book or Talking Cards to reach your destination.

MONEY AND EXPENSES

1. Currency

Vietnam is generally a cash-based economy. The currency is the Vietnamese Dong (VND). It comes in the following denominations:

1,000	10,000	100,000
2,000	20,000	200,000
5,000	50,000	500,000



Since a 50,000 VND note is worth just about \$2.50, you have to carry quite a few notes. It's a good idea to keep plenty of 5,000 VND; 10,000 VND, and 20,000 VND notes for taxis and snacks. USD are also accepted by some taxi drivers and vendors, but you will need VND for most transactions. At this editing (June 2018), the exchange rate is \$1US = 22,770 VND.

2. Currency Exchange and ATMs

Major foreign currencies are exchangeable at major banks, at your hotel and at ATM machines. ATM machines (such as HSBC and ANZ) are a good way to withdraw more than just 2 million VND, which is the maximum amount (per withdrawal) at most Vietnamese ATMs.

3. Credit Cards

Credit cards are accepted at most major establishments, but not for small vendors or street stalls and a surcharge of 2-4% may be applied to each transaction.

PASSPORT AND VISA

We encourage U.S. citizens to carry **photocopies of their passport data and photo page** with them at all times. A photocopy of the first four pages of your passport may come in handy if you misplace it for any reason. Original passports and other valuables

COFFEE SHOPS / TEA HOUSE

*Café Giảng	39 Nguyễn Hữu Huân, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 106 Yên Phụ, Ba Đình Dist.	098-989-2298
Café Mai	96 Lê Văn Hưu, Hai Ba Trung Dist. 79 Lê Văn Hưu, Hai Ba Trung Dist. 52 Nguyễn Du, Hai Ba Trung Dist. 75 Trần Nhân Tông, Hai Ba Trung Dist.	3822-7751 3822-9653 3822-7713 3822-9652
*Café Phố Cổ	11 Hàng Gai, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3928-8153
Chợ Cà Phê	46 Cầu Gỗ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	091-235-8939
Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf	28 Thanh Niên St, Ba Đình Dist. 16 Phan Chu Trinh St., Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3715-4240 3782-4920
*Cộng Cà phê	4 Lý Thường Kiệt St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 15 Trúc Bạch St, Ba Đình Dist. 27 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 46 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 32 Điện Biên Phủ, Ba Đình Dist. 100A Xuân Diệu, Tây Ho Dist. 54 Mã Mây, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 68 Quán Sứ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 35A Nguyễn Hữu Huân, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 54 Hàng Điếu St., Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 17 Triệu Việt Vương, Hai Ba Trung Dist. 101 C6 Trần Huy Liệu, Ba Đình Dist. 101 Vạn Phúc, Ba Đình Dist. 61 Văn Miếu, Dong Da Dist. 116 Cầu Gỗ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 75 Trích Sài, Tây Ho Dist.	
*Highlands Coffee	1-3-5 Đinh Tiên Hoàng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. Pacific Place, 83B Lý Thường Kiệt, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. Syrena Building, 51 Xuân Diệu St., Tây Ho Dist. Pullman Hotel, 20 Cát Linh, Dong Da Dist. 170 Ngọc Khánh, Ba Đình Dist. Opera House, 1A Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 44 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3936-3228 3946-0109 3719-1857 3201-1069 3244-4252 3933-4947 3936-3496
Joma Bakery Café	22 Lý Quốc Sư, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 43 Tô Ngọc Vân, Tây Ho Dist. 38 Liễu Giai St, Ba Đình Dist.	3747-3388 3718-6071 3762-8383
Lifted Coffee & Brunch	101 Hàng Gà, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	090-626-2107
*Maison Marou Hanoi	91A Thợ Nhuộm, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	3717-3969
Maison De Tet Decor	156 Từ Hoa, Tây Ho Dist.	096-661-1383
Oriberry	25 Xuân Diệu, Tây Ho Dist. 36 Ấu Triệu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3718-8076 3938-1263
*Runam	13 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	3928-6697
Starbucks	32 Hàng Bài, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 314 Bà Triệu, Hai Ba Trung Dist. 59A Lý Thái Tổ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 6 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. Somerset Westpoint, 2 Tây Ho, Tây Ho Dist.	3936-8407 3978-1817 3936-9017 3832-5678 3852-6969

VEGETARIAN		
An Lạc Chay Quán	Ngõ 12 Đặng Thai Mai, Tây Hồ Dist.	097-945-1848
*Aummee	26 Châu Long, Ba Đình Dist.	3716-9696
Cơm Chay Nàng Tấm	79A Trần Hưng Đạo St., Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3942-4140
*Jalus Vegan Kitchen and Café	46 Hàng Trống, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3266-9730
Loving Hut	4 Ngõ 192 Quán Thánh, Ba Đình Dist. 147B Âu Cơ, Tây Hồ Dist.	6273-7403 6651-8946
Minh Chay	45 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist. 30 Mã Mây, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	098-123-4545
*UU Dam Chay	34 Hàng Bài, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	098-134-9898
BARS/NIGHT CLUBS		
Bamboo Bar Metropole	Metropole Hotel, 15 Ngõ Quyền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3826-6919/ Ext: 8217
Bar+84	23 Ngõ Văn Sở, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	093-735-8484
*Camelia Lounge	3 Flr, Melia Hotel, 44B Lý Thường Kiệt, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	093-969-3223
*Furbrew	8B/52 Tô Ngọc Vân, Tây Hồ Dist	0165-772-4112
Hanoi Rock City	27 Lane 52 Tô Ngọc Vân, Tây Hồ Dist.	3933-6133
La Plume	3 Flr, Press Club Building, 59A Lý Thái Tổ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	090-406-7686
*Lounge 88	88 Xuân Diệu St, Tây Hồ Dist.	3718-8029
*Mojito	19 Nguyễn Quang Bích, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	096-753-7658
*Pasteur Street Tasting Room	1 Ấu Triệu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	6294-9462
*Polite & Co.	5B Ngõ Bảo Khánh, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	0123-566-6789
Summit Rooftop Bar	Pan Pacific Hotel, 1 Thanh Niên St, Ba Đình Dist.	3823-8888
*Standing Bar	170 Trần Vũ, Ba Đình Dist	3266-8057
The Hill Station	2T Tạ Hiện, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	091-513-1066
The Opera	18 Lương Ngọc Quyến, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	090-102-1818
Top of Hanoi	65 Flr, Lotte Center, 54 Liễu Giai, Ba Đình Dist	3333-1000
Tadioto	24B Tông Đản, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	6680-9124
*Unicorn	2 Hàng Than, Ba Đình Dist.	090-488-6266

should be placed in hotel safe deposit boxes. **Original passports** are required for hotel check in, to book air tickets, and to exchange money.

SAFETY & SECURITY

1. Crime

Although relatively safe, Hanoi is not crime free. Theft and personal violence is a reality in any large city and normal safety precautions are necessary. Be aware of your environment and minimize the amount of cash, credit cards, jewelry and other valuables you carry with you, particularly in crowded markets and on public transportation.

2. Crossing Streets

Traffic is chaotic and unpredictable with cars/motorbikes moving in all directions. When crossing the street it is important to be aware of what is happening in front of you, behind you, and on both sides of you. Do not take anything for granted and be aware of your situation at every moment. When crossing streets start walking at a slow pace and continue at the same pace until you reach the other side. Drivers will judge your speed and go around you. Do not go backward or turn around quickly as this may confuse drivers and cause accidents.

TELEPHONE & INTERNET SERVICE

Electronic and identify theft are on the rise in Vietnam. Do not use internet cafés or public internet access points for personal banking or financial transactions as many have key loggers and other spyware installed.

Prepaid SIM cards are cheap and easy to purchase. The three largest companies are Viettel, Mobifone, and

Vinaphone. SIM cards cost roughly \$2.50 and prepaid plans start around \$3.50. It is recommended that SIM cards are purchased at official vendors at the airport or in the city because they must be registered.

TIME ZONE

Vietnam is currently **11-12 hours ahead** of Washington, DC depending on Daylight Savings Time.

October—March, 12 hours ahead

For example, 10:00 pm in DC is 10:00 am (the next day) in Vietnam.

April—September, 11 hours ahead

For example, 10:00 pm in DC, is 9:00 am (the next day) in Vietnam.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- **The Hanoi Grapevine:** <http://hanoigrapvine.com/> Culture and Art event listings in Hanoi
- **Sticky Rice Food Blog:** <http://www.stickyrice.typepad.com/> An extensive street food blog of Vietnam.
- **Word Vietnam:** <http://www.wordhanoi.com/> Online version of the monthly magazine, Word Vietnam, that provides the latest offerings in Hanoi, HCMC, and other cities.
- **Hanoi International Women's Club (HIWC):** <http://www.hanoi-iwc.com/> This club keeps you updated on current Hanoi events, community service opportunities, and their own HIWC happenings. Membership is open to men.
- **Friends of Vietnam Heritage:** <http://fvheritage.org/> A non-profit educational group that provides organized tours and events in the city.

HEALTH INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

It is important to remember that a short period of adjustment is required after arrival, to allow for the change to a tropical climate. During the first few weeks, rest is recommended and exposure to the sun should be limited. It is important to drink plenty of fluids to counterbalance the amount lost from perspiration and to prevent dehydration.

FOOD PRODUCTS

Unsafe food (i.e. food contaminated with viruses or bacteria) is much more likely to be the cause of food-related illnesses than chemicals.

Chemical contamination of meat is typically chronic. Most pesticides/herbicides are fat-soluble and concentrate in high fat content foods. Consuming lean meat with all fat removed or low fat content poultry products may reduce exposure to chemicals.

Washing food with soap and water, rinsing with clean water, and allowing to air-dry, serves the purpose of removing dirt or other particles, as well as food contaminants which may be on the food's surface. Additional measures include throwing away the outer leaves of leafy vegetables, as well as removing the skin or peel from vegetables and fruit prior to cooking or eating may reduce pesticide exposure from food. Currently there are shops in Hanoi that claim to sell organic vegetables.

The following are a few rules that you should follow to keep healthy:

- Do not drink water from the tap; drink only boiled water, hot tea, coffee or bottled drinks.
- Do not brush your teeth with untreated water.
- Do not use ice cubes unless you are certain they were made from safe water.
- Avoid eating salads or raw vegetables in nonreputable restaurants or from street stalls; all vegetables and fruits should be peeled or thoroughly cleaned before eating.
- Eat only freshly cooked and hot food.

GENERAL HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

1. Malaria

At this time, malaria prevention is not recommended in either Ho Chi Minh City or Hanoi. Outside of these two major cities, the risk is probably higher. Forested areas are particularly likely to warrant concern. If traveling in the countryside around dusk, prudent measures include the use of repellents and mosquito nets. Fortunately, malaria has not been a common condition seen among the expatriate community in Vietnam.

2. Mosquitoes, Flies and Insects

Mosquitoes also transmit Dengue Fever and Japanese Encephalitis. The favorite breeding ground for mosquitoes is stagnant water and care should be taken that water is not allowed to accumulate on the ground of your home, in rain barrels, empty tin cans, flower pots, etc.

VIETNAMESE		
Quán ăn Ngon	34 Phan Đình Phùng, Ba Đình Dist. 18 Phan Bội Châu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3734-9777 3942-8162
Seasons of Hanoi	95B Quán Thánh, Ba Đình Dist.	3843-5444
Sen Tay Ho Restaurant	614 Lạc Long Quân, Tây Hồ Dist.	3719-9242
Wild Lotus (Dã Liên)	55A Nguyễn Du, Hai Bà Trưng Dist.	3943-9342
*Wild Rice (Lá Lúa)	6 Ngô Thì Nhậm, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3943-8896
WESTERN & INTERNATIONAL		
Al Fresco's	108 K1 Láng Hạ, Ba Đình Dist. 23L Hai Bà Trưng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 62 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist. 19 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3772-3555 3826-7782 3719-5322 3938-1155
Au Lac do Brazil	25 Trần Bình Trọng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3845-5224
Black Jack's	47 Hàng Bè, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3935-0137
Bufalo Wild Wings	Artemis Building, 3 Lê Trọng Tấn, Thanh Xuân Dist.	7300-6636
Chaouen Lounge	8 Ngõ 12 Đặng Thai Mai, Tây Hồ Dist.	097-376-0406
*Chops	4 Quảng An, Tây Hồ Dist. 12 Hàng Bạc, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 56 Phạm Huy Thông, Ba Đình Dist.	6292-1044 6686-7885 6653-5056
*Craft Beer Pub	26 Hàng Bưởi, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	096-312-4838
*El Gaucho Steakhouse	Lot G2, Sommerset West Point, 2 Tây Hồ St, Tây Hồ Dist. 11 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3718-6991 3824-7280
Fat Pig	74 Quảng An, Tây Hồ Dist.	6292-4120
*Green Tangerine	48 Hàng Bè St., Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3825-1286
*Jackson Steakhouse	23J Hai Bà Trưng St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	3938-8388
McDonald's	2 Hàng Bài, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3933-8080
Moose & Roo Pub and Grill	42B Mã Mây, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3266-8081
*Moose & Roo Smoke-house	American Club, 19-21 Hai Bà Trưng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3939-2470
*Rico Steakhouse	56 Trần Quốc Toản, Hoàn Kiếm Dist	012-2299-6789
Saint Honoré	5 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	3933-2355
*S&L Diner	22 Bảo Khánh, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3710-0529
Sunkat's Burgers	172 Phố Yên Phụ, Tây Hồ Dist.	098-833-1368
*The Republic	7A Quảng An, Tây Hồ Dist.	3718-5874 6687-1773

MEXICAN		
* Salt n' Lime	12 Từ Hoa (6 Alley 1 Ấu Cơ), Tay Ho Dist.	012-6613-4178
Tacos Fresh and More	54 Đào Duy Từ, Hoan Kiem Dist. 45 Trúc Bạch Lake, Ba Dinh Dist.	098-353-4123 096-887-6596
Xupito Bar	37 Lương Ngọc Quyến, Hoan Kiem Dist.	098-649-5221
THAI		
Bangkok	115 K1 Giảng Võ, Dong Da Dist.	6652-2277
Coca	75 Láng Hạ, Ba Dinh Dist.	3960-5555
Gusto Thai	9 Phan Chu Trinh, Hoan Kiem Dist. 14 Láng Hạ, Ba Dinh Dist.	3933-6353 3831-0909
Sawasdee	52 Lý Thường Kiệt, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3657-7777
Thai Express	2 Flr, 7 Đinh Tiên Hoàng, Hoan Kiem Dist. 5 Flr, Vincom City Towers, 191 Ba Trieu , Hai Ba Trung Dist. 6 Flr, Lotte Center Hanoi, 54 Lieu Giai, Ba Dinh Dist.	6282-2822 6255-9191 3825-3636
VIETNAMESE		
1946	3 Ngõ Yên Thành, 61 Cửa Bắc, Ba Dinh Dist. 50 Mai Anh Tuấn, Dong Da Dist. 292 Nghi Tầm, Tay Ho Dist.	6296-1946 6326-1946 6675-1946
*Cau Go	7 Đinh Tiên Hoàng, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3926-0808
Cây Cau	17A Trần Hưng Đạo, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3933-1010
Chả cá Anh Vũ	116 K1 Giảng Võ, Ba Dinh Dist. 14 Lot 2C Trung Hòa, Thanh Xuan Dist	3512-1279 3782-4099
Chả cá Lã Vọng	107 Nguyễn Trường Tộ, Ba Dinh Dist. 14 Chả Cá, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3823-9875 3825-3929
*Chim Sáo	65 Ngõ Huế, Hai Ba Trung Dist.	3976-0633
Highway 4	575 Kim Mã, Ba Dinh Dist. 25 Bát Sứ, Hoan Kiem Dist. 5 Hàng Tre, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3771-6372 3926-0639 3926-4200
*Home	34 Châu Long, Ba Dinh Dist.	3939-2222
Huế	1 Ngõ 36 Đào Tấn, Ba Dinh Dist	091-827-4323
Luk Lak	4A Lê Thành Tông, Hoan Kiem Dist.	094-314-3686
*Madame Hiền	15 Chân Cầm, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3938-1588
Nhà hàng Ngon	26 Trần Hưng Đạo, Hoan Kiem Dist	3933-6133
Port d'Anam	22 Nhà Thờ, Hoan Kiem Dist.	3928-2688
*Pots 'n Pans	57 Bùi Thị Xuân, Hai Ba Trung Dist.	3944-0204

A good rule of thumb is to know that flies and mosquitoes are not active in low temperature conditions. Keeping your A/C below 20 C will minimize their activity.

Cockroaches also carry diseases and are a common problem in kitchens and bathrooms.

Small geckos are common and you may see them on the windows of your home or running along the walls and ceilings. They eat insects and are harmless to you and should not be killed.

3. Stray dogs, Monkeys and Other Small Animals

Rabies exists in Vietnam therefore we recommend that:

- Contact with stray dogs, cats and monkeys be avoided, and
- children should be warned about these animals.
- Household pets are inoculated against rabies.

In the event of an animal bite, you should immediately:

- Scrub the wound thoroughly with soap and clean water and apply an antiseptic solution and a simple dressing.
- All animal bites with a break in the skin should be evaluated by a physician at either SOS or Hanoi Family Medical Practice to determine the need for antibiotics or rabies prophylactic treatment.

4. Diarrhea

Recurring bouts of diarrhea are very

common among foreigners living in Vietnam, particularly during the early months of their stay. Fortunately most cases of diarrhea are relatively mild and of short duration.

Treatment with simple medications and a bland diet is recommended. Extra fluids should be taken to avoid dehydration, especially in children.

5. Infectious Hepatitis and HIV AIDS

Proper care should be taken against Hepatitis, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Always practice safe sex, avoid acupuncture, piercing, tattoos, shaving at the street barbers, or manicure/pedicure, unless you have made sure that the instruments are absolutely clean, or you bring your own instruments. Children should be cautioned against picking up or handling needles or syringes that may be found on sidewalks or in parks.

6. MSG

Monosodium Glutamate is widely used as a flavoring agent in Vietnamese cooking and is especially potent in soups. Those with sensitivity to MSG should take extra care when eating local food. It is sold under the name of Ajinomoto in grocery stores and looks like a long salt crystal.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CHRISTIAN

- **Hanoi International Church**
Hanoi Club 76 Yen Phu Street.
Tel: 3823-8115
Email: belong@hanoichurch.com
Rev. Ted Englebrecht
Cell phone: 090-436-7971
English service, Sundays 10:30 am
- **Hanoi International Fellowship**
Hanoi Club 76 Yen Phu Street
E-mail: admin@hif.vn
English service, including Sunday school, Sundays at 10:00 am

CATHOLIC

- **St. Joseph's Cathedral**
Nha Tho Street
Tel: 3828-5967
Mass starts at 6:00pm every Saturday and Sunday.
The service is in Vietnamese and French
- **Hanoi Evangelical Church**
2 Pho Ngo Tram
Tel: 3854-8810
Service on Sundays at 2:00 pm
- **Catholic Cua Bac Church**
56 Phan Dinh Phung
Tel: 3733-5450
English Mass is on Sunday at 10:00 am

JEWISH

There is no organized Jewish community in Hanoi. Chabad operates a Chabad House in Ho Chi Minh City and holds regular Shabbat and holiday services. Their website is: www.jewishvietnam.com.

MUSLIM

There is a mosque located at 12 Hang Luoc near the Galaxy Hotel.

BAHA'I

The Local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Hanoi.
Baha'is gather every 19 days for services known as Feast Days and also for a number of different holy day and special observances.
For information about services please contact Mr. Duyen at 090 460 2751 or email pvanduyen@yahoo.com. For information about the Baha'i Faith in English, please contact Mr. Binh at 090 417 1745 or email justbahai@gmail.com

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Hanoi Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meets every Sunday from 9:00 am – noon at the following address:
House #2
9 Trung Yen Street
Cau Giay District, Hanoi



ITALIAN

Angelina's	Metropole Hotel, 15 Ngô Quyền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3826-6919
Casa Italia	18 Lê Phụng Hiểu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	096-888-2894
*Da Paolo	32 Quảng Khánh, Tây Hồ Dist.	8585-1443/ 3718-6317
Il Grillo	116 Bà Triệu, Hai Bà Trưng Dist.	3882-7720
Luna d'Autuno	27 Nam Ngự, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3823-7338
Mamma Mia	2 Chương Dương Độ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	093-553-9898
Mediterraneo	23 Nhà Thờ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3826-6288
*Pizza 4P's	24 Lý Quốc Sư, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 43 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 5 Phan Kế Bính, Ba Đình Dist.	028-3622-0500

JAPANESE

Azuma	Lakeside Hotel, 23 Ngọc Khánh, Ba Đình	093-642-7524
Benkay	Nikko Hotel, 84 Trần Nhân Tông St., Hai Bà Trưng Dist.	3822-3535
Hakata Ikkousha	25 Láng Hạ, Đống Đa Dist.	3519-1017
*Hokkaido Ramen Oyama	51 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	3718-8286
*Khang	322 Bà Triệu, Hai Bà Trưng Dist.	3974-7902
*KY Y	166 Triệu Việt Vương, Hai Bà Trưng Dist.	3978-1386
Miwa	31 Láng Hạ, Ba Đình Dist.	3514-9361
*REN	8A Hàng Cháo, Đống Đa Dist.	3733-8550
*Sushi Dokoro Yutaka	95 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	3718-6344

KOREAN

Bong Chu	B40 Nguyễn Thị Định, Thanh Xuân Dist.	6680-1423
Dae Bak	14 Lý Nam Đế, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3389-6868
*Don Chicken	250 Hàng Bông, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3710-0499
*Kimbab	15 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	0167-701-6779
*Ko Koong (Cổ Cung)	2 nd Floor, Keangnam Building, Phạm Hùng St., Nam Từ Liêm Dist.	3762-4331
*Samwon	68 Dương Đình Nghệ, Cầu Giấy Dist. (dinner only)	6680-1122

MEXICAN

*Anita's Cantina	36 Quảng Bá, Tây Hồ Dist.	094-900-9132
Hanoi Taco Bar	6 Đào Duy Từ, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	0125-2192-483

RESTAURANTS

* recommended by expats

CHINESE		
*Crystal Jade Palace	JW Marriott Hotel Hanoi, 8 Đỗ Đức Dục, Nam Tu Liem Dist.	3833-5588
Đền Lồng Đỏ	19 Nguyễn Công Hoan, Ba Đình Dist.	3771-1598
Fu Rong Hua	9 Đinh Tiên Hoàng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3936-9797
Luk Chew Hong Kong	183 Phùng Hưng, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3859-5222
Ming Palace	Pan Pacific Hotel, 1 Thanh Niên, Tây Hồ Dist.	3823-8888
Ngô Dining - The Dimsum House	13-15 Nhà Chung, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	091-123-1551
*Red Lantern (May mắn)	2 nd floor, Fortuna Hotel, 6B Láng Hạ, Ba Đình Dist.	3831-3333/ Ext. 6260
Wen Xing Hong Kong	175 Thái Hà, Dong Da Dist.	094-666-3348
FRENCH		
*A la Folie	11B Trúc Bạch, Tây Hồ Dist.	3976-1667
*Amato	Lane 1A, Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	0122-736-7470
*Cousins	Ngõ 58 Đào Tấn, House 7, Dong Da Dist. 19 Ngõ Đoàn Nhữ Hài, Hoàn Kiếm Dist. 3 Quang Ba, Tây Hồ Dist.	094-992-5863 3218-1186 0123-867-0098
*La Badiane	10 Nam Ngự, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3942-4509
Le Beaulieu	Metropole Hotel, 15 Ngô Quyền, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3826-6919
La Verticale	19 Ngõ Văn Sở, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3944-6317
Le Petit Bruxelles	25 Lý Quốc Sư, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3938-1769
Panam' Crêperie	26 Trương Hán Siêu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	6291-1026
Saint Honoré	5 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	3933-2355
INDIAN		
*Dalcheeni	100 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	3266-8453
Foodshop 45	59 Trúc Bạch St., Ba Đình Dist. 32 Hàng Buồm St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3716-2959 3991-9299
India Palace	10 Tây Hồ St., Tây Hồ Dist.	3719-5995
Khazaana	34 Đường Thành St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	098-912-9440 3934-5657
Little India	32 Hàng Tre, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3926-1859
*Namaste	46 Thợ Nhuộm St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	3935 -2400 Mr. Gopi: 090-326-6997
*Nan n Kebab	49 Xuân Diệu, Tây Hồ Dist.	6258-3580
Zaika	13 Hàng Điếu, Hoàn Kiếm Dist.	091-322-1971

POINTS OF INTEREST

HANOI OPERA HOUSE

The beautiful Hanoi Opera House was built by the French Colonial Government during the early years of the 20th Century. Harley and Broyer were the designers. This design was greatly modified by ideas of other architects. The work was started on June 7, 1901, and completed in 1911. Mr. Travary and Savelon were in charge of the construction.

The work, the peak of which is 34 meters above the ground, was carried out in a total area of 2,600 square meters with a 87-meter length and 30-meter width. The designers consulted the Corankta ancient Greek architecture in combination with style from the Tuylory Castle and Opera de Paris to form a unique design.

Inside the opera house is a large stage and a concert hall which measures 24x24m. With many small rooms for the audience on the central floor. The middle staircase leads to a large hall on the second floor. There are sub-staircases and corridors located on both sides.

At the back of the Opera House is a management chamber consisting of 18 make-up rooms, two rooms for voice training, a library and meeting room. Facing the stairs is a magnificent mirror room on the second floor.

See www.ticketvn.com for concerts.

ONE PILLAR PAGODA (CHUA MOT COT)

Situated between the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and the HCM Museum, the original One Pillar Pagoda was built in 1049 under the Ly dynasty. This beautiful wooden lotus-shaped pagoda rests on a single stone pillar rising out of a lotus pool. Legend has it that in a dream, King Ly Thai To saw the goddess Quan Am seated on a lotus leaf offering him a male child in her outstretched arms. Shortly after his dream he married a young peasant girl who bore him the male heir he had dreamed of. The king is said to have built the pagoda as a sign of his gratitude. Next to the One Pillar Pagoda is the **Chua Dien Huu**, a quiet haven with a lovely small courtyard.

HO CHI MINH'S MAUSOLEUM

- Apr to Oct:
Tues to Thurs: 7:30-10:30
Sat and Sun: 7:30-11:00
- Nov to Mar:
Tues to Thurs: 8:00-11:00
Sat and Sun: 8:00-11:30

When he died in 1969, Ho Chi Minh was embalmed, in the tradition of great Communist leaders. His mausoleum was modeled after Lenin's in Moscow (and rumor has it that Ho is sent to Russian embalmers for annual touch-ups). He is now on display to the public, lying in a glass box in a simple khaki uniform.

Visitors are not allowed to carry anything while viewing the body. Arrive early to avoid the long lines as people deposit and retrieve their belongings.

FITNESS

- Zenith Yoga - 1st and 2nd Flr, West Lake Suites Building, 99B Lane 275 Au Co, Tay Ho, Tel: 0904-356-561; 6 Flr, No.2, 371 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Tel: 093-268-6086
- Kinerjie Studio - Level 7, 101A Nguyen Khuyen, Dong Da Tel: 091-208-1950
- NShape Fitness, 5th Flr 71 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Dong Da, Tel: 6266-0495; 14-16 Ham Long, Hoan Kiem, Tel: 3944-9920
- The Fitness Village - Number 68, Alley 50, Lane 310, Nghi Tam, Tay Ho, Tel: 096-843-1374
- Elite Fitness & Spa - 51 Xuan Dieu, Tay Ho; Tel: 024-3718-6281; 25 Ly Thuong Kiet, Hoan Kiem; 024-3828-8888
- Crossfit Tay Ho - 77 Xuan Dieu, Tay Ho, Tel: 093-624-6530
- Viet Fighter - 44 Au Co, Tay Ho, Tel: 091-419-8683
- California Fitness & Yoga - 41 Hai Ba Trung, Hoan Kiem, Tel: 3936-0888
- Fusion Bodyworks - Hang Da Galleria, Hang Da, Hoan Kiem Tel: 6284-9696
- Hanoi OM - 62 Ly Thuong Kiet, Hoan Kiem, Tel: 3923-0253
- OM Factory - 5 Flr 135-137 Bui Thi Xuan, Hai Ba Trung, Tel: 6263-1515; 7 Lane 9 Dang Thai Mai, Tay Ho, Cell: 086-889-2944
- Van Phuc Sports Center - 73 Van Bao, Ba Dinh, Tel: 3846-0307

STREET NAME TRANSLATIONS OF OLD QUARTER TRADES

Hang Bac - silver ¹	Hang Giay - paper
Hang Be - rattan crafts	Hang Hom - coffins
Hang Bo - baskets	Hang Khoai - sweet potatoes
Hang Bong - cotton ²	Hang Luoc - combs
Hang Buom - sails	Hang Ma - paper replicas/toys ³
Hang Ca - fish	Hang Mam -pickled fish
Hang Can - scales	Hang Ngang—Cross way
Hang Chieu—Mat	Hang Manh - bamboo shades
Hang Cot - bamboo mats	Hang Muoi - salt
Hang Da - leather	Hang Non - conical hats
Hang Dao - silk dyers	Hang Quat - fans ⁴
Hang Dau - beans	Hang Than - charcoal
Hang Dieu - pipes	Hang Thiec - tin
Hang Dong - brass	Hang Thung - barrels
Hang Duong - sugar	Hang Tre - bamboo
Hang Ga - chicken	Hang Trong - drums
Hang Gai - silk	Hang Vai - cloth

¹ One of the few streets with shops still selling silver and jewelry.

² This street is a continuation of Hang Gai.

³ The stores sell seasonal holiday decorations, cards, bags and ribbons. This is an important place for Hanoians to buy paper products for wedding decorations, gift wrapping paper, and miniature paper products to burn for the dead.

⁴ This street is the place to purchase colorful funeral and festival flags and other religious objects.

On display in the temple is an enormous tortoise that lived in the lake until 1968. It is open every day from 8am to 5pm.

WHITE HORSE TEMPLE (DEN BACH MA)

Located on Hang Buom Street, and dedicated to Long Do, the temple was first built in the 9th Century. Apparently, a genie appeared to the Chinese Governor who ruled Vietnam between 866 and 875 as he walked outside the Citadel. Cao Bien arranged for metal objects to be buried at the place to exorcise the spirit. They were destroyed during the night, frightening him even more. He thus ordered the building of the Long Do Temple to appease the genie.

In 1010 the first Ly King, Ly Cong Uan moved the capital from Hua Lu to Thang Long (present day Hanoi). He built a new citadel, but the ramparts were mysteriously destroyed during the night. The King saw a white horse emerging from the temple, circling the citadel under construction and going back in to the temple. He then built the ramparts in line with the horse's path and the walls stayed in their place. Inside the present-day temple is a white horse, which is paraded around the streets each year for the festival.

TEMPLE OF LITERATURE (VAN MIEU)

Located on Quoc Tu Giam, and open every day from 8am to 5pm in Nov - Mar and 7.30am to 5.30pm in Apr - Oct. Built in 1070 under the reign of Ly Thai Tong, the temple is dedicated to the worship of Confucius and

famous scholars. In 1076 the temple was adjoined by the School of the Elite of the Nation (Quoc Tu Giam), Vietnam's first national university. It trained young men in literature and philosophy, the best of them became mandarins and court officers.

Above the main gate is an inscription requesting visitors to dismount their horses before entering the gate. The large temple enclosure is divided into five walled courtyards. The third courtyard surrounds a large central pool known as the Thien Quang Tinh (Heavenly Light Well). Here under the trees on either side, 82 stone stelae, survivors of the original 117, rest on the backs of stone tortoises. The stelae are inscribed with the names, works and academic records of the laureates.

QUAN THANH TEMPLE (DEN QUAN THANH)

Located on the corner of Thanh Nien and Quan Thanh, it is located on the street that divides West Lake from Truc Bach Lake. It was built during the Ly dynasty (1010-1225) and houses a huge bronze statue of Tran Vu, guardian Genie of the north, to whom the temple was dedicated. It was Tran Vu who helped King An Duong dispose of the devils and ghosts which plagued the building of Vietnam's ancient capital of Co Loa.

TRAN QUOC PAGODA (CHUA TRAN QUOC)

Located on Thanh Nien Street, and situated on a tiny peninsula on West Lake, this is one of the oldest pagodas in Vietnam, built around 544-548.

Despite many renovations over the centuries, the present pagoda still retains a unique architecture style. Inside the pagoda are beautiful statues, the most notable of which is the Shakyamuni Buddha.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

Located at Nha Chung and Nha Tho, the main gate is open daily for mass at 5-7 am and 5-7 pm. It was inaugurated in 1886 and the cathedral is famous for its square towers, elaborate altar and stained-glass windows.

WATER PUPPETS

Thang Long Water Puppet Theater, 57 B Dinh Tien Hoang, 5 daily shows at 3pm, 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 6.30pm and 8pm. Tel 3825-5450. The ancient art of water puppetry was virtually unknown outside of northern Vietnam until the 1960's. This is a 'must see' in Hanoi. It is lively, colorful and fun.

MEMORIAL HOUSE

87 Pho Ma May, 8am till 5pm. This thoughtfully restored traditional Chinese-style building gives you an idea of how local merchants in the Old Quarter used to live. While there are many of these types of houses in Hoi An, it is unique in Hanoi.

HANOI NATIONAL OPERA

For those who would like to experience Vietnamese classical opera, there are shows on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 15 Nguyen Dinh Chieu, 3943-7361.

HOA LO PRISON "HANOI HILTON"

Located at 1 Hoa Lo. Open daily 8-5. This prison is also known as the 'Hanoi Hilton' where American pilots were held from 1964-1973. Former

Ambassador Peterson and Senator McCain were among those held at this prison. One wall of the former prison still stands to honor the Vietnamese prisoners held by the French between 1896-1954.

THE ETHNOLOGY MUSEUM

Located on Nguyen Van Huyen Road. Open 8:30 am - 5:30 pm. Closed on Mondays and Lunar New Year holidays. There is an outdoor water puppet performance on Saturdays and Sundays at 10am; 11:30am; 2:30pm & 4:00pm.

It is a worthwhile museum which creatively displays the 50+ ethnic minority groups that inhabit Vietnam. It gives an interesting look at the crafts and lifestyles of the minorities. There is a Craftlink gift shop outside the museum near the exit.

THE FINE ARTS MUSEUM

66 Nguyen Thai Hoc
Open daily 8:30 am - 5 pm. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, open until 9 pm. Closed on Mondays.

The Museum exhibits some of Vietnam's ethnic minorities and prehistory, beautiful wooden statues of Buddha dating from the 17th century, the Dong Son bronze drums and examples of Vietnamese art, both ancient and contemporary.

WOMEN'S MUSEUM

36 Ly Thuong Kiet, Open daily 8-5pm. Newly renovated, the museum is a tribute to women soldiers and the international women's movement protesting the American War.

BOOKSTORES

- The Bookworm - 44 Pho Chau Long, Tel: 3715-3711.
- Foreign Books Centre - 1F, 44 Trang Tien, Tel: 3936-3330
- Xunhasaba - 32 Hai Ba Trung Street, Tel: 3825-4068
- Book street - 19/12 Street, Tel: 3512-3123



DRY CLEANERS AND LAUNDRY

- SAPY - 33 Pham Ngu Lao. Tel: 3824-2788/3825-8531
- USA Laundry - 29 Tran Huu Tuoc. Tel: 3577-2823
- Japan Laundry - 1 Tay Ho. Tel: 093-648-6958
- Fa-D - 279 Doi Can, Tel: 6663-3177. 98 To Ngoc Van, Tel: 098-471-4717. 84 Hoa Ma, Tel: 3944-7869.

MASSAGE & SPA

- Body & Soul (Ms. Tra) - Mobile: 090-424-1314
- Zen Spa - 164 Tu Hoa, Tel: 3719-9889
- Yakushi Center, Traditional / Holistic - 6, Alley 28, Xuan Dieu, Tel: 3719-1971, yakushi.center@gmail.com
- Dr. Tran Huong, Traditional Medicine - 80 Nui Truc, Tel: 3846-0783, drHuongtran@yahoo.com
- Mido - 26 Hang Manh, Tel: 3828-5588 & 11A Hang Be, Tel: 3868-0666
- Omamori - 52A Hang Bun, Tel: 6668-9666 & 102, Lane 5 Huynh Thuc Khang, Tel: 3773-9919
- SF Spa - 30 Cua Dong, Tel: 3926-2032 & 7 Cau Go, Tel: 3926-2323
- Orchids Spa - 108 Hang Trong, Tel: 3938-2289 & 34 Luong Ngoc Quyen, Tel: 098-453-7339
- Huong Sen Spa, Traditional Vietnamese massage - 78 Yen Phu, Tel: 3927-1330 & 68 An Duong, Tel: 3717-1999



HAIRDRESSERS & BEAUTY SALON

- Daewoo Barber Shop - 360 Kim Ma Street, Tel: 3831-5100
- Lan Salon, The Galleria Residences 80-82-84 Xuân Diệu. Tel: 0904 239 073
- Vu Doo - 1A Hang Bun, Tel: 3727-5015, Mobile: 090-345-4599
- More Hair - #5, Shop 5, Pan Pacific Hanoi, 1 Thanh Nien. Tel: 3911-8866
- Korigami - #7 Tran Te Xuong, Tel: 091-580-4875
- House of Barbaard - 36 Hang Chao, Tel: 6262-7737
- Coco Nails & Spa - 16/9 Nguyen Tri Phuong, Tel: 6687-8877
- Nail Kitchen - 89 Au Co, Tel: 6888-0864
- Cecilia Nail - Eyelashes - Skincare - 56 Cua Bac, Tel: 3823-8256
- Hue Beauty - Tel: 01682757993

organization. High quality handmade quilts, baby products and accessories made by women in rural Vietnam.

- **Q & A** - #31 lane 343 Doi Can and 53 To Ngoc Van. Handmade quality quilts and crafts made by disabled people.

ART GALLERIES

- Apricot Gallery - 40B Hang Bong, Tel: 3828-8965
- Kim Do Gallery - 57 Hang Trong, Tel: 3928-9620
- D+C Gallery - 62 Hang Trong and 87 Hang Gai, Tel: 090-466-5894
- Green Palm Gallery - 15 Trang Tien, Tel: 097-762-7722
- Hanoi Studio Gallery - 13 Trang Tien, Tel: 3934-4433
- Huong Xuyen Gallery - 16 Ngo Quyen, Tel: 3934-2721
- Mai Hien Studio - 99 Nguyen Thai Hoc, Tel: 3846-9614
- 54 Traditions Gallery - 30 Hang Bun, Tel: 3715-1569
- Viet Art Centre - 42 Yet Kieu, Tel: 3942-9085
- Viet Fine Arts Gallery - 96 Hang Trong, Tel: 3928-6667.
- Thang Long Gallery - 41 Hang Gai, Tel: 3825-0740.
- Art Vietnam - 2 Lane 66 Yen Lac, Tel: 3862-3184. Call for appointment.
- Manzi - 14 Phan Huy Ich, Tel: 3716-3397.

MALLS

- Vincom Centers and Megamall:
 - Vincom City Towers - 191 Ba Trieu
 - Vincom Times City - 458 Minh Khai
 - Vincom Royal City - 72A Nguyen Trai
 - Vincom Center - 54A Nguyen Chi Thanh
 - Vincom Long Bien - Vincom Village, Long Bien
- AEON Mall - 27 Co Linh, Long Bien
- Lotte Center- 54 Lieu Giai, Ba Dinh
- Hanoi Creative City - 1 Luong Yen, Hai Ba Trung



MUSEUM OF HISTORY

1 Trang Tien - 25 Tong Dan
Open 8:00-12:00 and 13:30 –17:00.
Closed on first Mondays of the month.
The museum occupies a large building built by the French in 1926 and formerly used as the Museum of Far East Archaeology. It contains a rich collection of remains for a multi-millennial civilization, from the Neolithic Age and Bronze Age until now.

MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM

28A Dien Bien Phu
Tel: 3823-4264
Open daily except Mondays and Fridays from 8-11:30 am, and 1-4:30 pm.

Pagodas (Chua) are dedicated to the worship of Buddhism. Temples (Den) are dedicated to the spirit of a revered person. A Dinh is a communal house.

IMPORTANT CONTACT

TAXIS

Airport Taxi	024-38-73-33-33
Noi Bai Taxi	024-38-86-88-88
CP Taxi	024-38-26-26-26
Taxi Group	024-38-53-53-53
ABC Taxi	024-37-19-19-19
Mai Linh Taxi	1055

LOCAL EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- * Police 113
- * Fire 114
- * Medical 115
- * Directory / Inquiry 116
- Information 1080

GENERAL SENTENCES

Hello	Xin chào
Thank you	Cảm ơn
Sorry	Xin lỗi
Yes/No	Vâng / Không

Where is the toilet?	Nhà vệ sinh ở đâu ạ?
I don't speak Vietnamese.	Tôi không biết Tiếng Việt
Help!	Cứu (tôi với)!
(In emergencies)	
Please help me to make a phone call to.....	Xin gọi giúp tôi đến
Stop here.	Dừng lại ở đây
Go straight	Đi thẳng
Turn right/left	Rẽ phải/trái
Turn around	Quay lại
Excuse me, where is ... (the Pharmacy)?	Xin lỗi, (hiệu thuốc)ở đâu ạ?
How much?	Bao nhiêu tiền?
English menu, please.	Xin cho thực đơn tiếng Anh
Bill, please.	Tính tiền.
Pork/beef/fish/ chicken	Thịt lợn/thịt bò/cá/ thịt gà
Beer/ bottled water/ hot coffee/ iced coffee/ green tea/ with ice/ without ice	Bia/ nước khoáng/ cà phê nóng/ cà phê đá/ trà xanh/ có đá/ không đá
Tofu	Đậu phụ
I am vegan/ vegetarian/ gluten free	Tôi ăn chay thuần/ ăn chay/ ăn chế độ không chứa gluten.
No MSG	Không mỳ chính
I am allergic to...	Tôi bị dị ứng với ...
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Một, hai, ba, bốn, năm, sáu, bảy, tám, chín, mười
11, 12, ...15, ...	Mười một, mười hai,mười lăm, ...
100, 200, 500, 700	Một trăm, hai trăm, năm trăm, bảy trăm
1,000; 2,000; 10,000	Một nghìn, hai nghìn, mười nghìn
1,000,000; 2,000,000;	Một triệu
	Hai triệu

SHOPPING INFORMATION



The most famous shopping street in Hanoi is Hang Gai Street and its continuation, Hang Bong Street, located in the area known as the *Old Quarter* or *36 Streets*. You will find silks, embroidery, beaded purses, stone carvings, t-shirts, conical hats, green army helmets, and just about anything else. The side streets offer lacquer ware, water puppets, traditional handicraft items and more. A stroll

down Hang Gai is a must! If you have time you should follow Hang Trong Street to Nha Tho (Hanoi Cathedral – St. Joseph’s) and explore the two streets Nha Chung and Ly Quoc Su. Many new boutiques have opened up lately and should not be missed.

FAVORITE STORES ON NHA THO, HANG GAI, HANG BONG AND HANG TRONG

1. Clothing / silk / embroidered accessories / household items

- **Tan My Embroidery** - 66 Hang Gai. Famous for its high quality hand-embroidered clothing and household items.
- **Tan My Design** - 61 - 63 Hang Gai. Features modern and contemporary fashion, accessories and household items created by some of Vietnam’s top designers. Traditional styles of the past, mandarin collars, silks and fine embroidery, can be found with a modern edge. Press Club café located in the back of the shop.
- **Kenly Silk** - 108 Hang Gai. Good quality silk clothing.
- **Ha Dong Silk** - 102 Hang Gai. High priced silk fashion.
- **Chie** - 109 Hang Gai. Clothing and ethnic handicrafts
- **Ginkgo** - 79 Hang Gai. Good quality T-shirts and clothing.
- **Things of Substance** - 5 Nha Tho. Excellent place to find linen and breathable fabric clothing that can be custom ordered to size.
- **Nagu** - 20 Nha Tho. Japanese inspired gifts, clothing, children's items. Known for handmade teddy bears made out of silk. Cute gifts, like passport holders and notebooks in linens and silk. Nagu also carries a small selection of clothing in modern/Asian simple designs.
- **Co Tailor** - 18A Nha Tho. Higher priced tailoring.
- **Chula** - 18 Nha Chung. Vietnamese inspired high-end clothing.
- **I'ME** - 9 Ly Quoc Su and 96 Hang Trong. Fun and trendy clothing.



2. Lacquer ware and other home furnishings

- **Hanoi Moments** - 101 Hang Gai. A small selection of porcelain and lacquer items are sold in this smartly laid out store with eye-pleasing displays. Good selection of buffalo horn serving utensils and jewelry.
- **Sapa** - 92 Hang Gai. Handicrafts from Sapa.
- **Thuong Gia** - 38 & 48 Hang Trong. Lacquer in many colors.
- **Tan My Design** - 61 Hang Gai. High end unique, artistic lacquer ware designs.
- **Kim’s House** - 24 Hang Trong. Lacquer products.

3. Other interesting stores

- **Propaganda Art** - 4 Nha Chung and 25&25A Ly Quoc Su. Original posters.
- **Artbook** - 1 Ly Quoc Su. Books, posters and gifts.
- **Collective Memory** - 20 Nha Chung. Nice gift ideas from all over Vietnam.

OTHER SHOPS AROUND HANOI

1. Antiques

- **54 Traditions Gallery** - 30 Hang Bun. Cultural antiques from Vietnam’s 54 ethnic groups.

2. Handicrafts/housewares

- **Craft Link** - 43 - 51 Van Mieu. Not-for-profit store selling minority peoples' traditional crafts. Put your money to a good cause. There are two stores located close to each other. You can find a nice collection of silk notebooks, purses, accessories, minority art, clothing, lacquer ware plates and bowls.
- **Maroon** - 156 Hang Bong. Slip covers, upholstery material and custom made furniture.
- **Dragon Fly** - 10 To Tich. Really nice home décor and lacquer.
- **Vietnam Craft Guild** - 1A-3 To Tich. Three “sister” stores with lacquer, bags, handicrafts and more. A variety of old ethnic fabric on the second floor of 1A.

3. Furniture and home furnishings

- **Maroon Driftwood** - 51 Ly Nam De. Good quality furniture and home furnishings.
- **Module 7** - 83 Xuan Dieu. Good quality furniture and home furnishings
- **Ynot** - 27 Từ Hoa. Excellent quality furniture
- **Dome** - 10 Yen The. Wide range of furniture and home furnishings, good quality. Can make to your specifications

4. Jewelry

- **Huong Jewelry** - 62 Hang Ngang, and 338 Pho Hue, 2nd floor (larger store). Good selection of silver and pearls at reasonable prices.
- **Three Trees** - 15 Nha Tho: Designer jewelry.

5. Handmade Quilts

- **Mekong Quilts** - 13 Hang Bac. A community development non-profit